CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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production needs. A general remodeling of the plant was to have been finished by the end of 1952. However, no new production was planned in connection with the remodeling.

- 4. The Prerov Plant had its own boiler facilities, and drew its water from the Becva River into which waste was drained. Scrap and sediment was stored behind the plant.
- 5. The Prerov Plant was connected to the Prague-Ceska Trebova-Ostrava and Prerov-Gottwaldov-Breclav N 48-46, E 16-537 railway lines by a siding. It also had direct connection with the Prague-Ostrava main highway. Prerov lay near the Becva River, but this was of no transportation advantage for the Prerov Chemical Plant, since the Becva was not navigable.
- 6. The only two products of the Prerov Plant were sulphuric acid and superphosphate. The old equipment for making sulphuric acid processed 18,000 tn. of pyrites yearly; the new equipment was supposed to process 36,000 tn. annually. Provided that the Prerov production quota was not reduced on demand of the Ministry of Agriculture, 10,000 tn. of raw phosphates were processed regularly each year. The rotary hearths did not require any special kind of raw materials and both flotation and crushed crystalline pyrites could be processed here. Besides domestic pyrites, the plant also used imported pyrites (mostly Norwegian) which were imported through Stettin and transported down the Oder River.
- 7. The Prerov Plant paid 1,060 crowns per dry weight ton of pyrites, on the base of 48% sulphur, delivered to Prerov. Residues, as was the case in all such plants, remained the property of the plant and were delivered to the Vitkovice Iron Works for 0.70 crowns per kilogram of iron weight. Money derived from these transactions was credited to the Prerov Plant.
- 8. Both Soviet and French phosphates were used and both were brought in via Stettin and the Oder River. Soviet phosphates could not be processed alone and they were always mixed half and half with the French. Raw phosphates cost 3,146 crowns per ton (P2O5) dry weight, delivered to Prerov.
- 9. Finished products were shipped out according to orders of the Ministry of Chemical Industry in Prague. Accordingly, sulphuric acid was sent to the Vitkovice Iron Works in Ostrava. Superphosphate was packed in paper sacks and distributed for agricultural use on orders from the Ministry of Chemical Industry, who in turn, received requests for distribution from the Ministry of Agriculture.
- 10. The Prerov Plant had no research department but had only a laboratory where products were inspected and raw materials tested.

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